



AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NEUROLOGY

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July 23, 2001

The Honorable John D. Dingell
2328 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Dingell:

The American Academy of Neurology (AAN) would like to thank you for your work in trying to secure patient protection legislation. A Patients' Bill of Rights that includes provisions such as adequate external review, choice of plans and providers, access to clinical trials with coverage for routine care, and access to specialty care is vital in the effort to provide American families the health care protections they deserve.

The AAN is particularly interested in ensuring the rights of patients to have access to specialty care. The AAN applauds you for including language to "The Bipartisan Patient Protection Act of 2001" that ensure that Americans have access to the specialty care they need.

With this in mind, we would like to offer you our support for "The Bipartisan Patient Protection Act of 2001." We would also like to urge you to find the common ground that will lead to passage in Congress and the signature of the President to enact this legislation. It is important that this legislation not be allowed to languish over liability issues.

I have attached the AAN's position paper on patients' rights for your review. If the AAN can be of assistance to you in any way, please do not hesitate to contact our Washington, D.C. representative Richard Verville at 202-466-6550.

Sincerely,

Stanley Fahn, MD
President

Enclosure

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